

Message Text

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13

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USEC BRUSSELS 1035

USOECN PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OSLO 0116

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB NO US

SUBJ: AFL-CIO REPRESENTATIVE VISITS NORWAY'S LO

1. MICHAEL BOGGS, AFL-CIO INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, VISITED OSLO JANUARY 3-6 FOR PRIVATE
TALKS WITH THE NORWEGIAN TRADE UNION FEDERATION
(LO). BOGGS DISCUSSED POLICY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN
LO AND AFL-CIO ON EAST-WEST EXCHANGES, CHILE, POR-
TUGAL (SEPTOL) AND OTHER SUBJECTS AT LENGTH WITH
LO PRESIDENT ASPENGREN, VICE PRESIDENT HOJDAHL,
INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY SANDEGREN, AND OTHERS.
BOGGS AND SANDEGREN BOTH BELIEVE LO UNDERSTANDING
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OF AFL-CIO CONCERNS AND LO PERCEPTION OF REALITIES IN

PORTUGAL AND CHILE HAVE BEEN ENHANCED, ALTHOUGH DIFFERENCES REMAIN. DISCUSSIONS ALSO FOCUSSED ON MUTUAL INTEREST IN RENEWED CONTACT AND DIALOGUE, PARTICULARLY ON LESS CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECTS SUCH AS WORK ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND SAFETY AND MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS, AND BOTH BOGGS AND SANDEGREN LATER EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT THE CONTENT AND OUTCOME OF TALKS. CONCRETE OUTCOME OF TALKS WAS AGREEMENT ON DESIRABILITY OF AN EXCHANGE VISIT TO NORWAY BY A SMALL GROUP OF AFL-CIO VICE PRESIDENTS LATE IN MAY AND OF LO ATTENDANCE AT THE AFL-CIO CONVENTION IN SAN FRANCISCO NEXT FALL. IN FACT, PRESIDENT ASPENGREN EXPRESSED INTEREST IN ATTENDING THE SAN FRANCISCO CONVENTION HIMSELF.

2. SANDEGREN ALSO LATER EXPRESSED LO'S SATISFACTION THAT AFL-CIO WOULD AGAIN BECOME ACTIVE IN EUROPEAN TRADE UNION AFFAIRS THROUGH THE OECD, TUAC, AND MENTIONED OFF-HAND THAT SOMETHING WOULD HAVE TO BE DONE TO ELIMINATE THE GULF BETWEEN ETUC AND TUAC CAUSED BY PERSONAL COOLNESS BETWEEN ETUC SEC GEN RASSCHAERT AND THE TUAC SECRETARIAT.
BYRNE

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